Allocation of foodgrains to drought hit States

3741. SHRI R. KAMARAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Task Force on drought management decided to allocate 19.39 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for employment generation programmes in drought hit States from April to June;

(b) whether Government are aware that the allocation of foodgrains is not sufficient to meet the requirement of drought hit States;

(c) if so, whether Government will come forward to allocate more foodgrains to the drought hit States, in order to fulfil their requirement;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUM DEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The Task Force on Drought Management has approved allocation of foodgrains for relief employment to a number of States upto June, 2003 and for Rajasthan upto July 2003, for the current drought.

(b) to (e) Adequate quantities of foodgrains have been allocated to the drought affected States for relief employment.

Drought Assistance to Chhattisgarh

†3742. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the economic and food assistance sought by various drought affected State Governments particularly Chhattisgarh Government together with the date of such request;

(b) the quantum of assistance provided by Government and when; and

(c) the reasons for not providing the assistance commensurate with the requirement of the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUM DEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) 17 States, including Chhattisgarh, had sought assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for the current drought. Majority of these States had also sought allocation of foodgrains for relief employment.

Government of Chhattisgarh had sought assistance of Rs. 880.66 crores from NCCF and allocation of 12.60 lakh MTs of foodgrains. In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2002-03 amounting to Rs. 22.72 crores, release of assistance of Rs. 127.51 crores from NCCF (after adjustment of CRF) and allocation of 4.43 lakh MTs of foodgrains have been made to the State.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.